

FEBRUARY 5.

The President, Dr. LEIDY, in the chair.

Twenty-seven persons present.

The following papers were presented for publication :—

“Notes on a Collection of Anchovies from Havana and Key West, with an account of a new species, *Stolephorus eurystole*, from Wood’s Holl, Mass.,” by Jos. Swain and Seth E. Meek.

“On a new species of Rotifer, of the Genus *Apsilus*,” by Sara Gwendolen Foulke.

The death of Wm. T. Haines, a member, was announced.

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FEBRUARY 12.

Rev. H. C. McCook, D. D., in the chair.

Thirty persons present.

A paper entitled “List of Fishes from Egmont Key, Florida, in the museum of Yale College, with descriptions of two new species,” by David S. Jordan, was presented for publication.

*Fresh-water Sponges as improbable causes of the pollution of river-water.*—Mr. POTTS reported that on the 9th of February he had visited and partially examined the forebay at Fairmount Water-works, on the Schuylkill River, from which the water had been temporarily withdrawn, with a view to discover the winter condition of the fresh-water sponges and the other inhabitants of that locality. He found far the larger part of the wall surface below the water-line inaccessible on account of a thick deposit of mud upon the bottom, and much water remaining in the forebay. Wherever reached, however, and so far as the eye could detect in other places, it was covered by a mud-colored incrustation of considerable thickness, which a more minute examination showed to be composed almost wholly of the statoblasts and spicules of the sponge *Meyenia Leidyi*. Some few fragments of *Meyenia fluviatilis* and *Spongilla fragilis* were seen, but the first-named was clearly the prevailing species.

A sluiceway which formerly supplied the last of the old “breast wheels” used in pumping into the reservoir, but from which the water had been for many months excluded, was entered and examined. Here the remaining incrustation (much having doubtless crumbled and fallen away) was from one-fourth to one-half